



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/726,219	12/02/2003	William L. Grilliot	MOR3334P2060US	3750
32116	7590	06/28/2005	EXAMINER	
WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER 500 W. MADISON STREET SUITE 3800 CHICAGO, IL 60661			WELCH, GARY L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3765	
DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/726,219	GRILLIOT ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Gary L. Welch	3765

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 02 December 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, filed 12 April 2005, have been reviewed and considered. No claims were amended and therefore claims 1-12 are currently pending. In view of applicant's arguments, the prior art rejections raised in the first Office Action are withdrawn. However, an updated search and further review of the prior art of record has prompted the following rejections. This Office Action is considered a second non-final rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-8 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bowman (U.S. 4,184,212).

Bowman discloses a firefighter's helmet 11 and a shroud/cover (10, 20) adapted to cover the lower portions of the head, face and neck of the wearer as well as the helmet 11. The shroud/cover (10, 20) has an uninterrupted juncture extending around the posterior portion of the wearer's head so as to eliminate any gap.

With regard to claim 2, the uninterrupted juncture does not extend around the anterior portion of the head of the wearer since an opening for a transparent shield plate 16 is provided for the wearer's vision.

With regard to claims 3, 4, 5 and 6, the cover and shroud have outer surfaces that are aluminized heat reflective (Col. 3, lines 3-5; Col. 3, lines 38-47).

With regard to claim 7, the uninterrupted juncture is defined by a permanent seam (see figure 1).

With regard to claim 8, the seam is sewn.

With regard to claim 10, the uninterrupted juncture is included in a common region forming an integral part of the cover and shroud.

With regard to claims 11 and 12, the common region including the uninterrupted juncture is aluminized heat reflective.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bowman (U.S. 4,184,212) in view of Saniscalchi (U.S. 4,803,109).

Bowman discloses the invention substantially as claimed above.

However, Bowman does not disclose that the seam is sealed by an adhesive sealant so as to be fluid-impervious.

Saniscalchi teaches waterproofing stitch lines in garments using an adhesive sealant (Col. 3, lines 38-51). The adhesive sealant ensures water impermeability at the seams.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide an adhesive sealant as taught by Saniscalchi to the stitched seams of Bowman thereby ensuring water impermeability at the seams thereby keeping the wearer dry and protected.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Iijima (JP 406041806A) discloses a cloth material for covering a wearer's neck, face and lower head and also covers a small portion of a protective helmet.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gary L. Welch whose telephone number is (571) 272-4996. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 5:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John J. Calvert can be reached on (571) 272-4983. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Gary L. Welch
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3765

glw